

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 319
By Black

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Millard V. Oakley for his meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee and congratulate him upon being named the 2005 Volunteer State Community College Friend of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Livingston, Tennessee, Millard V. Oakley was born on May 11, 1930; and

WHEREAS, graduating from Livingston Academy High School in 1947, Mr. Oakley attended Tennessee Technological University and graduated from Cumberland University School of Law, LLB in 1951; and

WHEREAS, between 1953 and 1971, Millard Oakley served four terms in the State Legislature and one term on the Constitutional Convention; he also served with acumen and alacrity as the County Attorney of Overton County for four terms; and

WHEREAS, from 1971-73, Mr. Oakley served as General Counsel for the United States House of Representatives for the House Select Committee on Small Business and as the State Insurance Commissioner for the State of Tennessee from 1975 to 1979;

WHEREAS, Millard Oakley owns the First National Banks of Tennessee in Livingston, Cookeville, and Crossville; and

WHEREAS, a public-spirited citizen of the highest order, Mr. Oakley serves on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of Thomas Nelson Publishers, the world's largest Bible publishing company; and

WHEREAS, both benevolent and philanthropic, Mr. and Mrs. Oakley created the Oakley First National Foundation to provide scholarships which give special emphasis to local higher education institutions, including Volunteer State Community College, The Tennessee Technology Center of Livingston, and Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Oakley also donated \$500,000 to expand the Volunteer State Community College Livingston Center; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this substantial donation, Millard V. Oakley has been named the 2005 Volunteer State Community College Friend of the Year; and

WHEREAS, committed to the highest precepts of community service, Millard Oakley has lent his superb leadership skills to numerous civic endeavors and is an important figure in the advancement of many worthy organizations; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Mr. Oakley is most thankful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Annette; this holy union has been blessed with one daughter, Melissa Oakley Smith, and one granddaughter, Kendall; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, he has dedicated himself to the pursuit of bettering the lives of his fellow human beings and improving his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Oakley epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like Millard Oakley, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to seize this golden opportunity to recognize and honor this estimable public servant; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Millard V. Oakley for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, congratulate him upon receiving the 2005 Volunteer State Community College Friend of the Year Award, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.